A Gem in the Italian Art Exhibition: A Giorgione.

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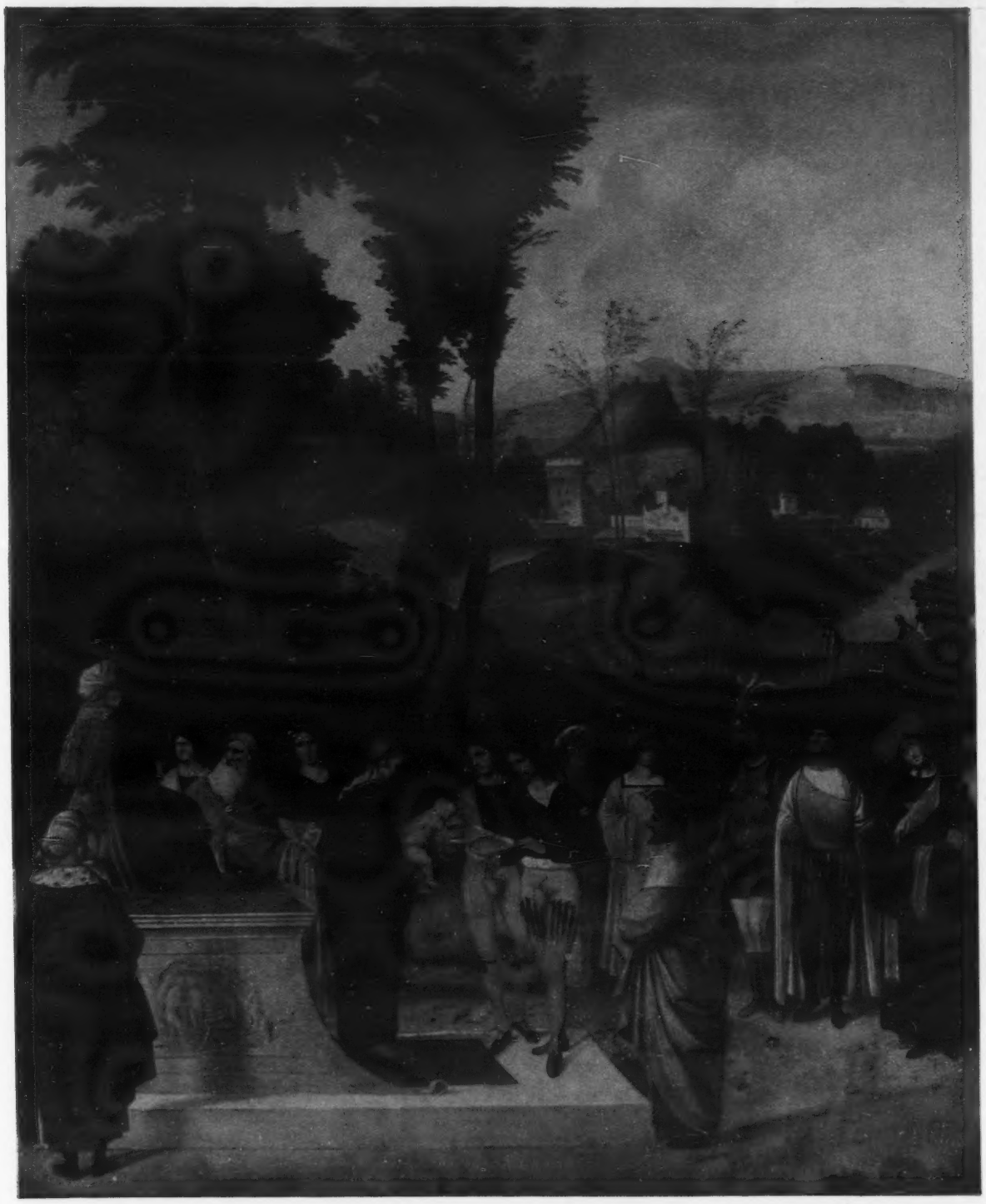

"THE TRIAL OF MOSES"—BY GIORGIONE (1477—1510): PHARAOH WATCHING THE INFANT MAKE HIS FATEFUL CHOICE BETWEEN GOLD AND EMBERS.

This fine example of the art of Giorgione (Giorgio da Castelfranco) has been lent for the Exhibition of Italian Art at Burlington House by the Royal Uffizi Gallery at Florence, where it has been since 1795. An explanatory note on the subject in the Exhibition catalogue says: "Pharaoh has dreamt that Moses will some day seize his crown; so, to try him, he has the infant presented with a dish of gold and a dish of embers. If Moses chooses the gold, he will have him killed. In the picture, Pharaoh is on his throne, in a rich landscape, surrounded by courtiers. Two of them hold out the dishes to the infant Moses, held by a black-robed woman, and he chooses the embers." Regarding the history of the picture, the note mentions that in the earliest inventory in which this picture and its pendant, the "Judgment of Solomon" (also in the Uffizi) occur, they are ascribed to Bellini. "Morelli and his school (it is added) believe them to be the earliest works of Giorgione." Giorgione's place as the leader of a new movement in the Venetian school during his short life, and a precursor of Titian, is discussed by Sir Charles Holmes in his authoritative and delightful book, "An Introduction to Italian Painting."

The Royal Bride of the Week.

FROM THE PORTRAIT BY GIUSEPPE AMISANI. (COPYRIGHTED.)

PRINCESS MARIE JOSÉ, ONLY DAUGHTER OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF THE BELGIANS.

The wedding of Princess Marie José, the only daughter and youngest child of the King and Queen of the Belgians, to the Prince of Piedmont, only son of the King and Queen of Italy, and heir to the Italian throne, was arranged to take place in Rome on January 8. The Pauline Chapel attached to the Quirinal Palace was chosen as the scene of the ceremony, and a Cardinal was specially appointed by the Pope to pronounce the Papal benediction on the royal couple. In honour of the Princess, a street in Rome—the old Viale delle Terme—was renamed the Viale Principessa di Piemonte in readiness for her arrival. Princess Marie José was born at Ostend on August 4, 1906. She received part of her education in Italy.

The Royal Bridegroom of the Week.

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THE PRINCE OF PIEDMONT, ONLY SON OF THE KING AND QUEEN OF ITALY.

Prince Umberto, Prince of Piedmont and heir to the Italian throne, only son of the King and Queen of Italy, was born at the Castle of Racconigi on September 15, 1904. As noted on the opposite page, his marriage to Princess Marie José, only daughter of the King and Queen of the Belgians, was arranged to take place at the Quirinal in Rome on January 8. The Prince's rank in the Italian Army is given in the "Almanach de Gotha" as Lieutenant-Colonel of Infantry. These portraits are both the work of Signor Giuseppe Amisani, who is the most distinguished portrait-painter in Italy, and is equally eminent in landscape. Two of his Algerian landscapes were reproduced in colour in our issue of January 28, 1928.

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